

Napier Students' Association: Executive 2010/11.

Minutes: Monday 8 November 2010 in F31 Merchiston.

1. **Welcome.** The Chair welcomed Sian Bryant to her first meeting.
2. **Attendance and Membership.**
 - (a) **Voting Members.** Kasia Bylinska (Chair), Si Ting Liu, Sian Bryant, Justyna Paslwska, Emma Lawrenson, Dawn Patrick Brown (late)
 - (b) **In Attendance.** Ann Whannell
 - (c) **Apologies.** Aaron Millar

3. Minutes of Last Meeting. None had been notified to the Chair except that JP had not attended. Otherwise agreed as a true and fair record.

4. Exec Reports

.1 President. 203 reps had been trained. The Feedback Campaign was progressing with an e-mail going out to all students. The Governance Review was progressing with work on the Constitution and the Improvement Board had met. NSA was sending 2 minibuses to the anti-fees demo in London. KB had given some press interviews on the campaign.

.2 Student Activities. There was a problem with the contracted merchandise supplier for clubs and delays were excessive. Rugby League were appealing a claimed walkover. They had clocked up 10 travel hours to play a game and the other team refused to play them because they were late. JP was seeking a venue for the Sports ball in March. A cheap venue and early ticket sales were seen as essential if this event were to break even. JP had attended NUS Scottish Council.

(DPB arrived)

.3 Campaigns and Rep. The Pakistan Flood Appeal had raised £817.80. Rep training had trained 203 over 3 nights. After rep training 30-40 students had been recruited onto the pilot for Advanced Rep Training with CIM accreditation and EL had been involved in setting this up. The first Senate had taken place and it had gone well and the Respect campaign had been rolled out there.

Senate Report. Generally this had covered a lot of business more quickly than usual for the first meeting. It had included guest speakers about Advanced Rep Training and Liam Burns from NUS Scotland about the London Fees Demo as well as elections to committees and the Exec. The Respect Campaign had helped set the tone of the debate so that it was less hostile and did not deter new and less confident speakers. There had been general positive feedback about the platform from some reps since. There was also some positive feedback about Liam Burns' explanation of the fees debate and its implications for Scotland. Rep issues would now be progressed through the Student Experience Committee and responses fed back

.4 Research Students.

- Inadequate teaching opportunities.
- Inadequate research training provided – no different to undergrads.
These issues were being referred to a cross faculty working party chaired by Chris Atton. NSA representation would be included.

There were now 3 out of the 6 research postgrads elected. NSA to e-mail them with DPB's contact details.

There was some concern that research students who complained about anything were negatively singled out by their HoD's. If anyone had a problem, they should contact DPB or KB but hopefully this would settle down when these posts became more established.

- Taught PG MSc in Public Leadership. There were issues over project work and the course not being validated. It was suggested that the reps put a paper to the Programme Board stating concerns as this was a serious rep issue. They might also invite AM to that meeting to support their case.

.5 International Students. STL had applied to go to Brussels to shadow student reps there for 3 days and see how representation was done in other countries. She had been discussing issues with international students and planned to put together a paper for the next meeting detailing these. KB offered help with this if STL needed it.

5. RISK MATRIX – governance issue

The Committee, acting as a Board of Trustees, identified and graded a range of risks and mediating actions.

6. I LOVE MY PDT/TUTOR.

KB planned to launch the 2nd year of this campaign on 17 January. Nominations would close on 6 Feb and awards would be on 22 March. She had managed to get some repeat funding from the HE Academy. The overall cost would be £2.5K, but the grant from the HEA would not cover this. She wanted more award categories this year and “best rep”, “best feedback”, and faculty wards were suggested. She asked for assistance with the campaign and to help decide which questions should be asked on the questionnaires.

7. AOB

.1 Exec/Governance Training. Arbroath 25-27 November. All members should make every effort to attend. The bus would leave NSA at 11am. Training to be provided by NUS Scotland and NSA.

.2 Haiti Collection. This would be around campus in response to the recent cholera epidemic.